



08- C-0530

## CITY OF ATLANTA

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN  
MAYOR

55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-0300  
TEL (404) 330-6100

March 17, 2008

President Lisa Borders and  
Members of Atlanta City Council  
City Hall, Suite 2900 South  
68 Mitchell St., S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

**RE: Nomination of Joe Basista (Commissioner of Department of Public Works)**

Dear President Borders and Members of the Council:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you for confirmation Joe Basista as my choice for appointment to the position of Commissioner of Public Works.

Mr. Basista has spent more than 30 years within the municipal public works arena, including a foundation as a dynamic civil engineer and design manager with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. From there he provided planning, design and construction management of \$1.2 billion wastewater capital program for the City of Houston, Texas. Since 2001, Mr. Basista has provided strategic planning and management of the City of Atlanta's \$3.2 billion wastewater capital program. His strong relationships with other departments and City Council make him a valued asset, which led me to choose him as the individual best qualified to fill this important role in my administration. I am sure that you will agree with my assessment as you advance through the confirmation process.

Sincerely,

Shirley Franklin

**Joe Basista**  
**335 Hascall Road NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30309**

32 years of professional experience within municipal public works arena. Demonstrated skills in project and program management, business management and organizational management, coupled with practical experience in technical planning, design and construction management. Performance record documents strong organizational skills, effective communication and proven leadership of large teams for successful implementation of complex capital programs and organizational / business functions.

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

- 1975-1992 – Havens & Emerson, Inc. – Engineer, Project Engineer/Manager, Partner of Firm
- 1992-2004 – MWH Global, Inc. – Vice President (H&E acquired by MWH in 1992)
- 2004 – Present – Deputy Commissioner, Dept of Watershed Management, City of Atlanta

**RELEVANT PROGRAM AND BUSINESS EXPERIENCE**

**Deputy Commissioner, Dept of Watershed Management, City of Atlanta (2004-Present)**

- Strategic planning and performance management metrics and reporting
- Site development policy and plan review team – re-engineered entire plan review process
- Sewer rehab program -- \$80 million per year, within schedule and budget
- Manage the PMT contract for Clean Water Atlanta – City's wastewater consent decrees
- Chair of Major Projects Team and Co-chair of Utility Coordination Committee
- Strong relationships with other departments and City Council

**Program Manager – Clean Water Atlanta (2001 - 2004)**

- Planning, design and construction mgmt of City's \$3.2 billion wastewater capital program – progressed within schedule, budget and compliance with Federal/State consent decrees.

**Manager – Texas Region of MWH Global, Inc (1999-2001)**

- Managed the Texas region (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas) -- \$50 million of annual revenue and 150 professional staff – business management and marketing, technical management.

**Program Manager (1996-99), Design Mgr (1992-95) – Houston Wastewater Program**

- Planning, design management and construction management of \$1.2 billion wastewater capital program for the City of Houston, Texas. Entire program successfully completed within schedule, budget and Federal/State consent order requirements.

**Manager – New England Region of Havens and Emerson, Inc (1987-1992)**

- Partner of the firm (Havens and Emerson) -- managed the New England region -- \$10 million of annual revenue and 30 professional staff.

**Design Manager -- Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (1984-1987)**

- Design manager for 810 MGD sewer pump station; fast-track improvements to 300 MGD wastewater treatment facility; and 360 MGD pre-treatment facility.

**Engineer, Project Engineer, Project Manager – (1975-1984)**

- Planning and design of municipal treatment facilities – (Cleveland, Ohio)

**EDUCATION**

- Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Cleveland State University, 1975
- Registered Professional Engineer (Ohio, Massachusetts)

**PERSONAL**

- Born 1950 -- Cleveland, Ohio – U.S Citizen
- Married

## **EXPERIENCE RELEVANT TO TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION**

### **Program Manager (1996-99), Design Mgr (1992-95) – Houston Wastewater Program**

- Planning, design and construction management of \$1.2 billion wastewater capital program for the City of Houston, Texas. Most of the work was new relief sewers within the existing public right-of-way, requiring design and construction management of approximately 200 miles of reconstructed public streets (milling, paving, curbing) – neighborhoods and arterial.

### **Deputy Commissioner, Dept of Watershed Management, City of Atlanta (2004-Present)**

- Site development plan review team (2004 to present) – reviews proposed public right-of-way within about 20 subdivisions per year.
- Sewer rehab program (2004 to present) -- \$80 million per year of sewer rehab, mostly within existing public right-of-way. To date the work includes milling and paving of about 20 lane-miles of public streets – neighborhoods and arterial. Also successfully implemented the “first of its kind” permit for work in the right-of-way (from DPW) that provides for multiple utilities (DWM and AGL) to jointly perform work under a single permit.
- Chair of Major Projects Team (2006 to present) -- multi-agency team that performs pre-permitting review of major development projects (> \$10 million). Approximately 200 projects reviewed to date. As Chair, facilitates the review of traffic and transportation related items including street cuts, traffic signalization, traffic studies, deceleration lanes; abandonment of existing right-of-way and proposed new public right-of-way.
- Co-chair of Utility Coordination Committee (2007 to present) – Committee includes DWM, DPW, Parks and private franchise utilities. Stated objectives include coordination of capital projects within public right-of-way and improvements to the permitting process for work in the public right-of-way. As co-chair, facilitated development of:
  - GIS database/mapping system that incorporated 3 to 4 years of future capital projects from DWM, DPW and AGL; fully coordinated more than \$50 million of capital projects within the Midtown area with DWM (water, sewer), AGL (gas lines), DPW (street paving) and Midtown CID (streetscapes).
  - Successfully developed and implemented an electronic permitting program (DPW) for the franchise utilities that perform work within the public right-of-way.